

Application No. 10/636,178

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1) deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2) added matter is shown by underlining.

Please cancel claims 1-28.

Please add claims 29-66 as indicated below.

29. (New) A venting device for a structure, comprising:

an elongate top panel portion having an interior surface and including structure defining a multiplicity of discrete air passages;

a pair of opposing ventilating portions spaced apart on the interior surface of said elongate top panel portion and defining an area of said interior surface therebetween, each of said ventilating portions having an interior side and an exterior side and formed from a weatherproof, three-ply material comprising a pair of outer plies and an intermediate ply, said outer plies and said intermediate ply defining a multiplicity of discrete air passages extending from the interior side to the exterior side; and

means for filtering air passing through at least one of said multiplicities of separate air passages, said means presenting a filtering area for air flow at least equal to the area of said interior surface defined between said pair of ventilating portions.

30. (New) The venting device of claim 29, in which said top panel portion is formed from said three-ply material.

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31. (New) The venting device of claim 29, in which said venting device is characterized by a longitudinal axis and in which said air passages extend generally transversely or generally perpendicularly to said longitudinal axis.

32. (New) The venting device of claim 29, in which said top panel portion is characterized by a longitudinal axis and in which said top panel portion defines a route proximate to or coextensive with said longitudinal axis, said route exposing said interior openings of said multiplicity of air passages defined in said top panel portion.

33. (New) The venting device of claim 32, in which said route is defined in one of said outer plies and in said intermediate ply.

34. (New) The venting device of claim 29, in which said intermediate ply is generally fluted or comprises a series of cross walls.

35. (New) The venting device of claim 29, in which each of said ventilating portions comprises at least one panel made from said three-ply material.

36. (New) The venting device of claim 29, in which each of said ventilating portions comprises a plurality of panels made from said three-ply material.

37. (New) The venting device of claim 29, said air filtering means comprising a filtering material.

38. (New) The venting device of claim 37, in which said filtering material is attached to said top panel portion or said ventilating portions.

39. (New) The venting device of claim 38, in which said filtering material is attached by an adhesive or a fastener.

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40. (New) The venting device of claim 37, in which said top panel portion is characterized by a longitudinal axis, said filtering material attached to said top panel portion proximate said longitudinal axis.

41. (New) The venting device of claim 29, said venting device adapted for installation on a roof structure whereby said roof structure may be ventilated.

42. (New) A venting device for a structure, comprising:

an elongate top panel portion having an interior surface and including structure defining a multiplicity of discrete air passages;

a pair of opposing ventilating portions spaced apart on the interior surface of said elongate top panel portion and defining an area of said interior surface therebetween, each of said ventilating portions having an interior side and an exterior side and formed from a weatherproof, three-ply material comprising a pair of outer plies and an intermediate ply, said outer plies and said intermediate ply defining a multiplicity of discrete air passages extending from the interior side to the exterior side,

said multiplicities of discrete air passages presenting an air flow cross section; and

means for filtering air passing through said multiplicities of discrete air passages, said means presenting a filtering area for air flow at least equal to the area of said air flow cross section.

43. (New) The venting device of claim 42, in which said top panel portion is formed from said three-ply material.

44. (New) The venting device of claim 42, in which said intermediate ply is generally fluted or comprises a series of cross walls.

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45. (New) A venting device for presenting air flow between the interior space of a structure and the environment, comprising:

a top panel portion having an interior surface, said top panel portion defining a multiplicity of discrete top panel air passages and presenting a top panel air flow cross section in operable air flow communication with said structure interior space;

a ventilating portion operably carried on the interior surface of said top panel portion, said ventilating portion defining a multiplicity of discrete ventilating portion air passages presenting a ventilating portion air flow cross section in operable air flow communication with said structure interior space,

said top panel air flow cross section and said ventilating portion air flow cross section together presenting a venting device air flow area; and

means for filtering air passing through said multiplicities of top panel air passages and ventilating portion air passages, said means presenting a filtering area for air flow at least equal to said venting device air flow area.

46. (New) The venting device of claim 45, in which said top panel portion and said ventilating portion are formed from a three-ply material having a pair of generally planar outer plies and an intermediate ply, said outer plies and said intermediate ply defining substantially all of said top panel air passages and said ventilating portion air passages.

47. (New) The venting device of claim 46, in which said intermediate ply is generally fluted or in which said intermediate ply comprises a series of cross walls extending between said pair of outer plies.

48. (New) A ventilating device for conveying air between the interior space of a structure and the environment, comprising:

a top panel portion having an interior surface, said top panel portion including structure defining a multiplicity of discrete top panel air passages and presenting a top panel air flow cross section in operable air flow communication with said structure interior space;

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a ventilating portion operably carried on the interior surface of said top panel portion, said ventilating portion defining a multiplicity of discrete ventilating portion air passages, said ventilating portion air passages presenting a ventilating portion air flow cross section in operable air flow communication with said structure interior space;

said top panel air flow cross section and said ventilating portion air flow cross section together presenting a venting device air flow area; and

a filter having a first filter portion operably positioned with respect to said top panel air passages and a second filter portion operably positioned with respect to said ventilating portion air passages, said filter presenting a filtering area for air flow at least equal to the area of said venting device air flow area.

49. (New) The ventilating device of claim 48, in which said top panel portion and said ventilating portion are formed from a three-ply material having a pair of outer plies and an intermediate ply defining said top panel air passages and said ventilating portion air passages.

50. (New) The ventilating device of claim 49, in which said intermediate ply is generally fluted or said intermediate ply comprises a series of cross walls.

51. (New) The ventilating device of claim 48, in which said filter comprises a sheet of air permeable, water resistant material.

52. (New) The ventilating device of claim 51, in which said air permeable, water resistant material comprises spun bonded randomly arranged synthetic polymer fibers.

53. (New) A venting device for conveying an air flow from an interior space of a structure, the venting device comprising:

a top panel portion having an interior surface and defining a multiplicity of discrete top panel air passages;

a ventilating portion contacting the interior surface of said top panel portion and defining a multiplicity of discrete ventilating portion air passages; and

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a filtering material disposed to contact said air flow as said air flow enters said venting device from said interior space of said structure.

54. (New) The venting device of claim 53, said top panel portion air passages presenting a top panel air flow cross section in fluid communication with said structure interior space, said ventilating portion air passages presenting a ventilating portion air flow cross section in fluid communication with said structure interior space, said top panel air flow cross section and said ventilating portion air flow cross section together presenting a venting device air flow area, and in which said filtering material presents a filtering material area at least equal to said venting device air flow area.

55. (New) The venting device of claim 53, in which each of said top panel portion and said ventilating portion comprise a weather proof three-ply material, said three-ply material comprising a pair of generally planar outer plies and an intermediate ply disposed between said outer plies, said outer plies and said intermediate ply defining said top panel air passages and said ventilating portion air passages.

56. (New) The venting device of claim 53, in which said filtering material is attached to said top panel portion or said ventilating portions.

57. (New) The venting device of claim 53, in which said top panel portion is characterized by a longitudinal axis, said filtering material attached to said top panel proximate said longitudinal axis.

58. (New) The venting device of claim 53, in which said ventilating portion comprises a plurality of panels made from said three-ply material.

59. (New) The venting device of claim 53, in which said filtering material comprises a sheet of air permeable, water resistant material.

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60. (New) The venting device of claim 59, in which said air permeable, water resistant material comprises spun bonded randomly arranged synthetic polymer fibers.

61. (New) A venting device for conducting an air flow between the interior space of a structure and the environment, comprising:

a top panel portion having an interior surface;

a ventilating portion attached to the interior surface of said top panel portion, said ventilating portion defining a multiplicity of discrete ventilating portion air passages, said multiplicity of discrete ventilating portion air passages comprising a first row of ventilating portion air passages and a second row of ventilating portion air passages underlying said first row of ventilating portion air passages, said first and second rows of ventilating air passages generally parallel to said top panel portion; and

a filtering material disposed to contact air entering said venting device from said interior space of said structure.

62. (New) The venting device of claim 61, said top panel air flow cross section and said ventilating portion air flow cross section together presenting a venting device air flow area, said filtering material having a surface area at least equal to said venting device air flow area.

63. (New) The venting device of claim 61, in which said top panel portion defines a multiplicity discrete of top panel portion air passages extending generally parallel to said multiplicity of ventilating portion air passages.

64. (New) The venting device of claim 63, in which said top panel portion and said ventilating portion are formed from a three-ply material comprising a pair of outer plies and an intermediate ply disposed between said pair of outer plies, said outer plies and said intermediate ply defining said multiplicity of top panel portion air passages and said multiplicity of ventilating portion air passages.

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65. (New) The venting device of claim 64, in which said intermediate ply is generally fluted or in which said intermediate ply comprises a series of cross walls.

66. (New) The venting device of claim 61, in which said filtering material comprises a sheet of air permeable, water resistant material.